

# COVID-19 Vaccination 101

## Overview Deck

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Updated: December 14, 2020



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**



# Table of Contents

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**3**

## **NC's COVID-19 Response** *Guiding principles*

**5**

## **COVID-19 Vaccine 101** *What it is, how it works, how it is being developed*

**13**

## **NC's Approach to COVID-19 Vaccine** *Planning and distribution*

# NC's COVID-19 Response

Since the start of the pandemic, North Carolina took early and aggressive action to slow the spread of COVID-19. Our response has been driven by science and data, frequent and transparent communications, and addressing the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on historically marginalized populations.

|  | What the State is Doing   | What You Can Do   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Prevention</b><br>Slow the Spread                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Phased reopening to minimize spread of COVID-19</li><li>• Require <u>face coverings</u></li><li>• Promote the 3Ws (<u>Wear, Wait, Wash</u>)</li><li>• Rolling out COVID-19 vaccines</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Practice the 3Ws</u></li><li>• Share <u>social media posts, videos, flyers</u> to encourage people to practice the 3Ws</li><li>• Follow <u>NCDHHS guidance</u></li></ul> |
| <b>Testing and Tracing</b><br>Know Who Has COVID-19 & Who Has Been Exposed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Build a statewide <u>testing &amp; contact tracing</u> infrastructure</li><li>• Surge resources in hardest hit communities and populations</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Get <u>tested</u> if <u>symptomatic</u> or if you think you are exposed to COVID-19</li><li>• Answer the call from the <u>COVID-19 Community Team</u></li></ul>             |
| <b>Isolation and Quarantine</b><br>Support People to Stay Home             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure access to <u>non-congregate shelters</u> for people who need to isolate</li><li>• Enact policies to enable people to miss work and stay at home</li></ul>                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stay home when you can, especially when sick</li><li>• Support employees to stay home when sick to minimize the spread</li></ul>  |

# Guiding Principles for NC COVID-19 Vaccine Planning and Distribution

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES



All North Carolinians have access to vaccines



Inclusive vaccine planning and distribution: State and local government work with public and private partners, drawing on the experience and expertise of leaders from historically marginalized populations



Trust is built through honest, accurate, and frequent public communications



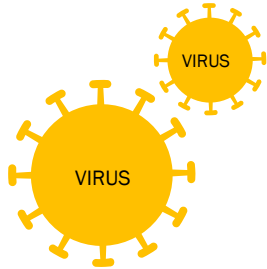
Data is used to promote equity, track progress, and guide decision-making



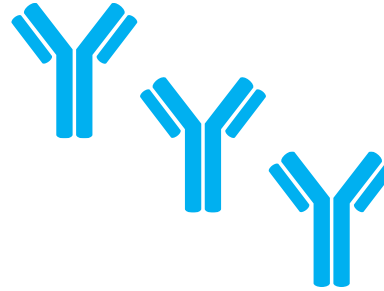
Successful implementation is driven by wise use of resources, continuous evaluation, and improvement

# Vaccines work by helping your body fight infections.

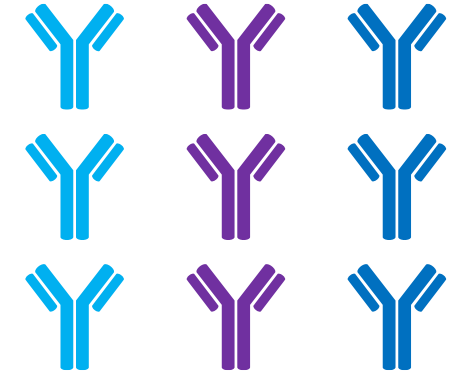
Here's an example of how your body creates immunity from a virus:



When exposed to a virus, your body's immune system fights back—you may have a fever, congestion, a cough or feel tired.



But your body is also working to create proteins—called antibodies—to fight the virus.



Your body creates different antibodies for different viruses it fights.

After the infection, your immune system remembers the virus and has antibodies ready to help prevent you from getting sick again.

# Vaccines are a safe way to fight off COVID.

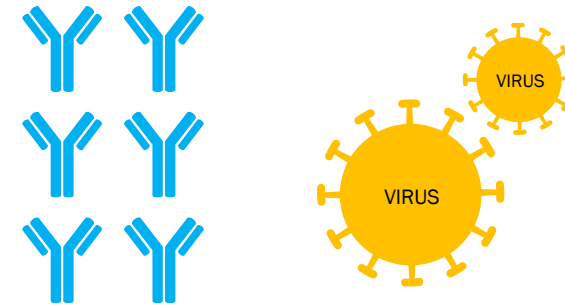
Vaccines safely increase your body's natural ability to fight the virus before the virus tries to fight you. That's how you win and the virus loses.

**Vaccines imitate an infection without giving you one.**



There is no COVID-19 in the vaccine. It just gives your body instructions to make a protein that safely tricks your body into making an antibody to fight the real COVID.

**You get immunity to the real virus if it tries to attack.**



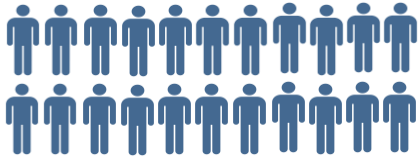
After getting vaccinated, you develop immunity to the real virus because your body is strong enough to fight it and win.

# COVID-19 vaccines were rigorously tested for safety and effectiveness.

All vaccines must go through the following phases to be approved:

## PHASE ONE

### Safety & Dosing



*20-100 healthy volunteers*

#### Questions Addressed:

- Is the vaccine safe?
- Are there any serious side effects?
- How is the size of the dose related to side effects?

## PHASE TWO

### Safety & Immune Response



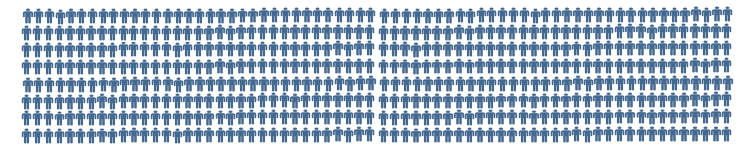
*Several hundred volunteers*

#### Questions Addressed:

- What are the most common short-term side effects? Are they tolerable and temporary?
- How are the volunteers' immune systems responding to the vaccine?

## PHASE THREE

### Safety & Effectiveness



*Thousands of volunteers*

#### Questions Addressed:

- Is the vaccine effective in preventing illness?
- What are the most common side effects?
- Is the vaccine safe?



# Scientists had a head start—and thousands of volunteers helped with clinical trials

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## Vaccine Timeline

- **Multiple** COVID-19 vaccines are being developed based on the science of similar viruses.
- Promising vaccines are being manufactured at the same time they are being tested, so there will be an **initial supply ready to go right away** if—and only if—science proves the vaccines safe and effective.
- Once we have vaccines, it will still be **some time before it is widely available** to everyone. States will receive limited supplies at the start but soon there will be enough for all who want one.

## Volunteer Process

- **Thousands of people** have volunteered as part of rigorous, multi-step research trials to see if a vaccine prevents COVID illness and is safe.
- Testing has been inclusive, with **intentional efforts to recruit historically marginalized populations** to participate in vaccine trials. Public health experts recognize there are significant barriers to overcome, including racism that has been embedded into societal and health care systems and continues to result in unequal access to care, maltreatment, and neglect for historically marginalized communities.



# Developing, Manufacturing, and Distributing a COVID-19 Vaccine

## PHASE 1 & 2:

### Safety & Dosing

#### 10s-100s of healthy volunteers

- Are there any side effects? How many volunteers experience side effects?
- What is the best vaccine dose to create an immune response with the fewest tolerable side effects?

## PHASE 2 & 3:

### Safety & Effectiveness

#### >30,000 of volunteers

- Does the vaccine prevent COVID-19 infection?
- What are the most common side effects?
- Do the benefits of the vaccine outweigh the risks?

## Approval & Distribution

- FDA reviews the safety and efficacy data to determine if benefits are greater than risks
- An independent, non-FDA scientific committee reviews findings
- Vaccine is authorized and recommended for use (may only be for certain populations)
- Vaccine is labeled for use, benefits, side effects

## Manufacturing

**Preparation:** Manufacturing development, scaling up, quality-control testing

**Large-Scale Manufacturing:** Making millions of vaccine doses for nationwide distribution, continued quality-control testing of vaccine batches and manufacturing facilities, FDA and CDC continually monitor vaccinated patients for safety

**Availability:** Limited availability in the beginning. More widely available over time.

# Tested, safe, effective, and available now.

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## Scientific evidence must show that a COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective



COVID-19 vaccines must pass all three phases of clinical trials before receiving Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval.



Once a vaccine is proven safe and can prevent COVID-19, it will most likely be authorized under an FDA Emergency Use Authorization. The Pfizer vaccine has passed this step. The Moderna vaccine is likely to follow soon.



The Emergency Use Authorization authority allows FDA to help strengthen public health protections by increasing the availability and use of safe medicines needed during public health emergencies.

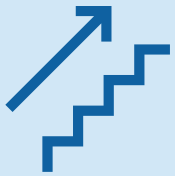


Like all drugs, vaccines are closely monitored for safety by the FDA and CDC after they have been approved for public use.

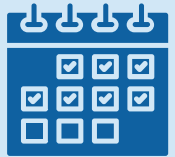
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/science/coronavirus-vaccine-tracker.html> (Oct 3)

# A COVID-19 vaccine is available now.

**The Pfizer vaccine has been approved and sent to states, but it will still be some time before it is widely available to everyone**



It will take time for manufacturers to ramp up production, even if they started early.



Limited COVID-19 vaccine doses are available this year, but vaccine supply will increase substantially in 2021.



States will receive limited vaccine supplies at the start.



# Leading with Equity

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Racism runs throughout our social, economic, and health care systems, causing unequal access to care, maltreatment, and neglect for historically marginalized communities. These longstanding and continuing racial and ethnic injustices in our health care system contribute to lack of trust in vaccines.

- North Carolina is drawing upon the experience and expertise of leaders from historically marginalized communities to develop and implement its vaccine plan.
- The prioritization for distribution is based on framework developed by an independent Vaccine Advisory Committee convened by the NC Institute of Medicine.
- Principles guiding prioritization were equity, maximization of benefits, transparency, operational feasibility, reliance on a strong evidence base, and “do no harm.”

# NCIOM COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Committee

The prioritization for distribution is based on a framework developed by an independent Vaccine Advisory Committee convened by the NC Institute of Medicine. More than 65 people served on the committee.

## Co-Chairs

Art Apolinario, *Clinton Medical Clinic/NC Med Society*  
Goldie Byrd, *Wake Forest Univ.*  
Leah Devlin, *UNC-CH*

## Steering Committee

Crystal Wiley Cené, *UNC Health*  
Viviana Martinez-Bianchi, *Duke Health*  
David Tayloe, *NC Pediatric Society*  
Doug Urland, *NC IPH*  
Weyling White, *Roanoke Chowan Community Health Center & Mayor of Ahoskie, NC*  
Cameron Wolfe, *Duke Health*

## Advisory Committee

Jenie Abotts, *NC CHCA*  
Rebecca Bean, *Novant*  
Michele Boyd, *Charlotte AHEC*  
Vickie Bradley, *Eastern Band of Cherokee*  
Sharon Brown-Singleton, *NCCHCA*  
Jay Campbell, *NC Board of Pharmacy*  
Juan Carabana, *Episcopal Farmworker Ministry*

Julie Casani, *NC State*  
Joy Cook, *NC NAACP*  
Andy Ellen, *NCRMA*  
Ellen Essick, *NC DPI*  
Chris Evans, *BCBS NC*  
Brent Fisher, *Nash County Emergency Management*  
Aimee Forehand, *BCBS NC*  
Kelly Fuller, *NC Chamber Foundation*  
Cindy Gay, *UNC School of Medicine*  
Ophelia Garmon-Brown, *Novant Health*  
Tina Gordon, *NC Nurses Assoc.*  
Charlene Green, *Old North State Medical Society*  
Kevin High, *Wake Forest Baptist*  
Jeff Horton, *NC Senior Living Assoc.*  
Nicole Johnson, *NC Council of Churches*  
Randy Jordan, *NCAFFCC*  
Gary Junker, *NC DPS*  
Debra Kosko, *NC Immunization Coalition*  
John Lumpkin, *BCBS NC Foundation*  
Tammy Maynor, *Lumbee Tribe*  
Bruce McClenathan, *Defense Health Agency*

Tyler Means, *Mecklenburg County Public Health*  
Sarajane Melton, *Area Agency on Aging, Southwestern Commission Council of Governments*  
Jill Moore, *UNC School of Gov.*  
Adam Pridemore, *NCCCA*  
Michael Olender, *AARP NC*  
Cheryl Parquet, *BCBS NC*  
Lu-Ann Perryman, *AHIP*  
Adam Pridemore, *NCCCA*  
David Priest, *Novant Health*  
Andrea Reed, *Novant Health*  
David Rinehart, *NCAFP*  
Pilar Rocha-Goldberg, *El Centro Hispano*  
Caitlin Ryland, *LegalAid*  
Susanne Schmal, *NC DPI*  
Catherine Sevier, *AARP NC*  
Chris Shank, *NCACHC*  
Adam Sholar, *NC HCF*  
Paula Swepson Avery, *West Marion Community Forum*  
James Stackhouse, *Wayne Co. Health Dep.*  
Larkin Taylor-Parker, *Disability Rights NC*

Jim Thomas, *UNC*  
Robin Tutor-Marcom, *NC Agromedicine Institute*  
Mark Tuttle, *Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians*  
Michael Waldrum, *Vidant and NCHA*  
Rebecca Walker, *UNC-CH*  
Chip Walter, *Duke Human Vaccine Institute*  
Brenda Weis, *Wayne County Health Dep.*  
Cass Wolfe, *Child Care Services Association*

## NCIOM

James Coleman  
Emily Hooks  
Brieanne Lyda-McDonald  
Alison Miller  
Michelle Ries

# COVID-19 Vaccinations: Those most at risk get it first.

A tested, safe and effective vaccine will be available to all who want it, but supplies will be limited at first. Independent state and federal public health advisory committees have determined that the best way to fight COVID-19 is to start first with vaccinations for those most at risk, reaching more people as the vaccine supply increases from January to June. Keep practicing the 3W's—wear a mask, wait six feet apart, wash your hands—until everyone has a chance to vaccinate.



Every health care worker at high risk for exposure to COVID-19—doctors, nurses, and all who interact and care for patients with COVID-19, including those who clean areas used by patients, and those giving vaccines to these workers.

Long-Term Care staff and residents—people in skilled nursing facilities and in adult, family and group homes.

Adults with two or more chronic conditions that put them at risk of severe illness as defined by the CDC, including conditions like cancer, COPD, serious heart conditions, sickle cell disease and Type 2 diabetes, among others.

Adults at high risk of exposure including essential frontline workers (police, food processing, teachers), health care workers, and those living in prisons, homeless shelters, migrant and fishery housing with 2+ chronic conditions.

Those working in prisons, jails and homeless shelters (no chronic conditions requirement).

Essential frontline workers, health care workers, and those living in prisons, homeless shelters or migrant and fishery housing.

Adults 65+

Adults under 65 with one chronic condition that puts them at risk of severe illness as defined by the CDC.

College and university students.

K-12 students when there is an approved vaccine for children.

Those employed in jobs that are critical to society and at lower risk of exposure.



# North Carolina's Commitment

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**Provide early, transparent, consistent, and frequent communications so that North Carolinians:**



**Trust the information**  
that they receive from  
NCDHHS and local health  
departments about  
COVID-19 vaccinations



**Understand the benefits  
and risks** of COVID-19  
vaccinations



**Make informed  
decisions** about  
COVID-19 vaccinations



**Know how and where**  
to get a COVID-19  
vaccination